

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: PILOT RESEARCH PROJECT ON IV PROGRAM IN AFRICA

1. CU/AF WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT BEING REVIEWED BY THE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS. IT IS PROPOSED THAT INTERVIEWS BE CONDUCTED WITH SIX FORMER IVS FROM GHANA AND FOUR FROM SENEGAL IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAUGE CURRENT PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS FROM THE VISITOR'S POINT OF VIEW. INTERVIEWS WOULD BE CONDUCTED WITH VISITORS WHO RETURNED TO THEIR COUNTRIES BETWEEN MAY 1970 AND MAY 1973. IF APPROVED, INTERVIEWS WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN GHANA AND SENEGAL IN MAY 1974. THE QUESTIONS WOULD TRY TO SHED FURTHER LIGHT ON SUCH THINGS AS:

A. WHAT MAKES A U.S. TRIP VALUABLE FOR AFRICAN VISITORS?

B. WHICH PROGRAMMING ELEMENTS ARE PARTICULARLY CONDUCIVE TO ENHANCING COMPREHENSION OF THE U.S.?

C. WHAT WERE THE VISITOR'S PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR THEIR VISIT? WERE THEY MET?

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D. WHAT ASPECTS OF THE VISITORS' UNDERSTANDING WERE IN-

CREASED? DID THEY GAIN GREATER APPRECIATION OF THE COM-
PLEXITY AND MAKE-UP OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, OR DID THEIR
FACUAL KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH THINGS AS GEOGRAPHY RECEIVE
THE GREATEST BOOST? OR BOTH?

E. WAS THE VISIT REALLY WORTH IT TO THE VISITOR IN
TERMS OF TIME?

F. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN PRO-
GRAMMING AFRICAN VISITORS AS OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN VISITORS
(E.G. PACING, USE OF ESCORT/INTERPRETERS, PROGRAM
AGENCIES).

2. THE RESEARCHER FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT IS MRS. MARY
W. BRADY. MRS. BRADY HAS HAD EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH
COSERV AND GAI AND HAS BEEN A CONSULTANT TO THE AFRICAN-
AMERICAN INSTITUTE. IN THE SPRING OF 1973 MRS. BRADY
PREPARED A REPORT TO THE BUREAU ON A SERIES OF IN-DEPTH
INTERVIEWS WITH THIRTY FORMER VISITORS FROM WESTERN
EUROPE. THE REPORT HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT INCENTIVE FOR
PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT.

3. WE APPRECIATE THE POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES OF CONDUCTING
A PROJECT LIKE THIS IN AFRICA. WE HAVE, THEREFORE, DIS-
CUSSED THE PROS AND CONS OF ATTEMPTING SUCH RESEARCH WITH
OFFICERS HERE AND ALSO WITH MR. FRED ARKHURST, DIRECTOR
OF AFRICAN PROGRAMS FOR THE PHELPS-STOKES FUND. DURING
A VISIT TO GHANA LAST SUMMER MR. ARKHURST SPOKE WITH
SEVERAL FORMER VISITORS ABOUT GRANTEE RESPONSE TO SUCH A
PROJE*T AND THEY FELT THAT IT COULD SERVE A USEFUL
PURPOSE. COULD WE PLEASE HAVE YOUR REACTIONS BY JANUARY
15, 1974. KISSINGER

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